



WELCOME TO JUST 4 KIDS

Helpful Internet & Computer Terms

Blog

Short for Web-log. An online journal where you can post stories, personal information or private thoughts. Blogs are very popular among pre-teens and teenage children. They are usually updated on a daily basis and are considered the online version of a diary.

Chat

Real-time communication over the Internet between two or more individuals. You type and send a message that appears almost instantly to the individuals you are talking to.

Chatroom

A place online where you can talk by typing. Chatrooms are popular places to "meet" people who share the same interests as you do.

COPPA

Children's Online Privacy and Protection Act, one of numerous laws that were passed to protect children using the Internet. The law prohibits Web sites that children visit from collecting and sharing a child's private information. E-mail, instant messaging and chatting are all Internet tools regulated by COPPA.

Cyberbullying/cyberstalking

A form of harassment that occurs online and often includes rude or threatening messages, slanderous information, repeated unwanted messages or posting of malicious photos and blogs.

Cyberspace

Anyplace on the Internet that users can access, including chat rooms, message boards and websites.

Emoticons

Symbols that can be created using a keyboard and sent through e-mails, chat rooms or instant messengers. They are used to express different emotions, such as sticking your tongue out : P or being happy :).

File-Sharing Programs

Programs that allow multiple users to access files at the same time. These are usually used to illegally download music and software.

Flaming

Sending a deliberately confrontational message to others on the Internet.

Gamer

Someone who plays online computer games

Hyperlinks

An image or portion of text that when clicked connects to Web sites or other Internet resources like images, sounds, animations, videos.

Instant Messaging

Messages that appear immediately as you talk to another user

Internet Address

Takes you to a specific place on the Internet. The Attorney General's Internet address is www.attorneygeneral.gov.

Log-in Name

The name that you pick to hide your identity online. It is also known as a username or screen name. In order to protect yourself it should never include your first name, last name or disclose if you're a boy or girl.

Message Boards

A place on the Internet where you can post information for other people to read and see.

Mouse Trapping

A commonly used technique by pornography sites where users get "locked" in a Web site. When this happens, you often cannot close or back out of the sites.

MP3

Digital music file that allows you to play music on your computer.

Netiquette

Refers to the correct and respectful way of behaving on the Internet. Behavior that is appropriate in the real-world should cross over and be used while online.

Password

Your secret word that you use to access e-mail and special log-in Web sites. Never share your password with anyone.

Photo Sharing Sites

Sites that allow you to post photos in albums for others to view. Most popular include Album, Flickr, Photolog and Webshots.

Piracy

Illegally copying copyrighted software, music or movies.

Podcast

An audio show broadcast over the Internet.

Spimming

Similar to spamming, spimming involves sending mass mailings through Instant Messengers and chatrooms that often have links to explicit porn sites.

Social Networking Sites

Sites that allow members to communicate with each other in a number of different ways. Members often have a profile and post a picture. Some of the most popular sites include MySpace, Friendster, Facebook and Xanga.

Surf

To search the Internet for Web sites and information

URL

Another way of saying Internet address.

Whitelisting

A form of filtering that only allows connections to a preapproved list of sites that are considered useful and appropriate for children.